

Message Text

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16

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8814

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: HOANG ANH TUAN

REF: FBIS S171137

1. A MAY 17 LIBERATION RADIO BROADCAST GIVE A BRIEF PERSONAL HISTORY OF MAJOR GENERAL HOANG ANH TUAN, HEAD OF THE PRG DELEGATION TO THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION. THIS HISTORY GENERALLY AGREES WITH OTHER BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE MISSION.

2. THE LIBERATION RADIO BROADCAST STATES AS FOLLOWS:

A. " MAJ GEN HOANG ANH TUAN, ALIAS HO XUAN ANH, WAS BORN IN 1923. DURING THE AUGUST REVOLUTION IN 1945 HE JOINED THE LIBERATION ARMY IN THUAN HOA (A VILLAGE NEAR HUE). DURING THE FIRST RESISTANCE HE FOUGHT ON THE 5 TH INTER- ZONE FRONT, SUCCESSIVELYHOLDING THE RANK OF COMPANY, BATTALION AND REGIMENT COMMANDER.

B. " IN 1954, WHEN THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED AND PEACE WAS RESTORED IN INDOCHINA, HE WAS DESIGNATED A MEMBER OF THE VPA HIGH COMMAND DELEGATION TO THE CENTRAL JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION.

C. " WHEN THE US IMPERIALISTS MASSIVELY SENT TROOPS TO INVADE SOUTH VIETNAM HE RETURNED TO THE SOUTH TO PARTICIPATE IN
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THE FIGHTING AND SUCCESSIVELY SERVED AS DEPUTY DIVISION COMMANDER, DIVISION COMMANDER, AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF A MILITARY REGION, HOLDING THE RANK OF SENIOR COLONEL. HE WAS AWARDED MANY MEDALS IN COMBAT, AND WAS PROMOTED TO MAJOR GENERAL IN DECEMBER 1972."

3. OTHER REPORTS ARE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE ABOVE BROADCAST. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY, THE PRG DELEGATION ON MAY 16 GAVE A LOCAL UPI CORRESPONDENT THE FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHY OF TUAN:

A. BORN NEAR HUE, 48 YEARS OLD.

B. MARRIED. SEVERAL CHILDREN, ALL IN THE NLF.

C. ATTENDED SCHOOL IN SOUTH VIETNAM. PARTICIPATED IN MILITARY ACTIVITIES WHILE STILL A STUDENT. MAJORED IN HUMANITIES.

4. THE GVN' S CIO HAS PROVIDED SIMILAR INFORMATION, GIVEN BELOW:

A. SUBJECT TRUE NAME IS HO XUAN ANH. HIS BIRTHDATE IS UNKNOWN, BUT HE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN BORN IN CENTRAL VIETNAM. IN 1940 HE GRADUATED FROM A FRENCH HIGH SCHOOL IN HUE. HE WAS ACTIVE IN THE VIET MINH; FROM 1947-48 HE SERVED AS A BATTALION COMMANDER IN " INTER- REGION V" (THEN ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO SOUTHERN CENTRAL VIETNAM.)

B. IN 1952 SUBJECT WENT TO NORTH VIETNAM AND SUBSEQUENTLY TO COMMUNIST CHINA WHERE HE TRAINED FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS. AS OF 1957 HE WAS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR THE 305 TH INFANTRY DIVISION AND WAS PROMOTED TO LIETENANT COLONEL THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

C. TUAN RETURNED TO SOUTH VIETNAM IN 1960 TO BECOME CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE PEOPLE' S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES (PLAF) IN VC MILITARY REGION V (THEN ALSO ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO SOUTHERN CENTRAL VIETNAM). IN 1963 HE WAS ASSIGNED TO PLAF HEADQUARTERS AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF; IN LATE 1965 HE WAS ONCE AGAIN ASSIGNED TO VC MR- V, THIS TIME AS DEPUTY COMMANDER. IN 1967 HE WAS PROMOTED TO FULL COLONEL AND SERVED AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AT VC MR- VI (ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THE NORTHERN QUARTER OF THE GVN' S MR III). IN LATE 1967 TUAN WAS AGAIN ASSIGNED TO PLAF HEADQUARTERS AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, BUT ASSUMED THE ADDED FUNCTION OF CHIEF OF OPERATIONS.

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